

**Academic Update
for
Board of Trustees Meeting
09/15/2017**

Completing **Space Reallocation Plan** (Library/CASET) to align with new Academic Organizational Structure (May-August 2016), designed to make the Library the ‘activity hub’ of campus

- Career Services on main floor of Library—prominent, high traffic
- Academic Success Center on main floor of Library
- College of Arts and Sciences on main floor of Library
- School of Education on lower floor of Library, proximate to key resources
- NW entrance to Library Commons opened
- Fire Science on lower floor of CASET

A new **3+1 Bachelor of Science in Nursing program** has been established with Bay College in Escanaba. The initial student cohort for the Fall semester is 5 students with an anticipated cohort size of 10 in Fall 18 and 25 projected within the next two years. The school of nursing is currently discussing similar programing with two other Michigan community colleges.

New LSSU website launched. LSSU is migrating existing (and creating new) web content into Wordpress (open source content management system)

Scribing and training to implement **Degree Works** in Registrar’s Office (Fall 2017 launch). Degree Works is a comprehensive academic advising, transfer articulation, and degree audit solution: helping students graduate on time.

Pursuing ‘Badging’ of faculty for **online instruction** with the first group of faculty took an initial ION course this summer to ensure equivalent learning outcomes, standards for effective course delivery

Key **IT Hardware/Network initiatives** include: authentication, network/wireless upgrades, residential wireless upgrades, data center upgrades, and new phone system

Application for **Early Middle College** partnership with EUP Intermediate School District was accepted (more detail below)

Center for Freshwater Research and Education (CFRE)—working closely with Cloverland Electric and City to discern optimal design/configuration of facility for all involved

Nursing Simulation Center— working closely with War Memorial Hospital (WMH) to identify best path forward for this facility

Launched new **Pathways Program** to offer admission and provide additional supports (mentoring, counseling, and tutoring) to students who would have otherwise not been accepted to LSSU. Ten students are participating in this program.

New faces in Academic Affairs (within the last year):

John Graham – *Instructor, Biology*

Garnet Green – *PSA Field Officer*

Mary Hoben – *Instructor, Theater*

Zachary Holden – *Assist. Prof., Chemistry*

William Houston – *Assist. Prof., Geology*

Hari Kandel – *Asst. Prof., Environmental Science*

Jody Kapuscinski – *Front House Office Mgr., Arts Center*

Robert Kipka – *Assistant Professor, Mathematics*

Brooke Maciag – *School Support Specialist, CSO*

Erica Newland – *Sponsored Programs Administrator*

Fred Newton – *Instructor, Fire Science*

Elizabeth Phillips – *Assistant Professor, Nursing*

Lauren Pierce – *Academic Assistant, Criminal Justice*

MaryKathryn Rocheford – *Assist. Prof, Phys. Sciences*

Alexandra Van Doren – *Assist. Professor, Library*

Masoud Zarepoor – *Assistant Professor, Engineering*

The new **Kinesiology** program is off to a strong start. The program consolidation was finalized last April, with this incoming class being the first freshman. Many currently enrolled students in the school are also switching to this new major. The model also affords great leverage in developing cooperative approaches (e.g. minors, concentrations, etc.) with academic units across campus.

Kinesiology has signed as a part of a multi-site trial with MSU extension (NMU and MTU are also involved) for the *SPartner Trial*. This is a transnational research program looking at web based interactive education with mentors (our students) to increase physical activity in 5th graders. This will introduce field-based research to our students, provide curriculum for local schools, and generate ~\$2000 in lab equipment for the Exercise Performance Lab (EPL). Local schools targeted for participation include Bahwating School, Washington and Lincoln Elementary, and Brimley Elementary.

Kinesiology is conducting performance testing through the EPL for our hockey team. This program is in its fifth year. The program has been extended to include Kinesiology faculty seeking this type of professional development, specifically Professors Jody Susi and Pusch.

The teach out of **Athletic Training** program students is underway. Dr. Joe Susi and Professor Ouimette have extended themselves as leaders in the transition to **Kinesiology**.

Parks and Recreation has had an infusion of support with the proposed move to Biology. Dr. Childs continues to meet with Biology faculty as we look at models to reinvigorate this programmatic staple.

The **Nursing Simultion Center** was granted \$2600 by the Superior Health Foundation for the purchase of 12 AED practice trainers and AV equipment for the purpose of student and community training. This grant was submitted by Dr. Berchem.

The **School of Fire Science and Emergency Services** is pleased to announce that a Fire Truck was donated to the university and should be arriving within the next week. We would like to thank the donor, as well as Professor Fred Newton and Dr. Mitchell, who were instrumental in the negotiations.

Fire Science and EMS will be hosting a State of Michigan fire certification course for Michigan fire officers in October, as well as one day seminar on Principles of Fire Attack. We anticipate 20 individuals will be on campus for the certification course and 300 fire personal from across the state as well. Professors Fred Newton and Nick Vaught were instrumental in coordinating this activity.

The LSSU **Chemistry Dept.** has been awarded a collaborative educational grant from the American Chemical Society in conjunction with **Bay Mills Community College**. This collaborative grant is designed to encourage students at two-year community colleges to continue their studies in a STEM discipline at a four-year institution. The project entitled, "Native American Medicinal Plants: Encouraging STEM Educational Partnerships Through Indigenous Knowledge," will involve the isolation of plant compounds that are often used in Native American traditional medicine and the characterization of these compounds utilizing LSSU's new 400 MHz nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer. Dr. Diana Cryderman, Bay Mills Community College Science department chair and LSSU alum ('08) is serving as the grant coordinator, and she will be working directly with Dr. R. Marshall Werner, Professor of Chemistry, from LSSU. A long term goal of this project is to develop partnerships between the BMCC and LSSU faculty and students.

Dr. Kathy Berchem (**Nursing**) and Dr. Ashley Moerke (**Biology**) collaborated to take nine Nursing and nine Biology students to New Zealand in May for a Study Abroad trip.

Kiffen Smallegan (May 2017 **BSN** grad) was accepted into the Air Force Nurse Internship program. He was selected from over 350 applicants for 40 slots. His goal is to become a flight nurse.

Nursing faculty (Dr. Sandi King and others) recently presented The Virtual Dementia Tour over two days with Hospice of the EUP staff and others. Twenty-five staff members from Hospice, the Merlin Home for dementia care and Hearthside Assisted Living took part in the training. All of the exercises were designed to increase caregivers' understanding of people suffering with a neuro-cognitive disorder, help them better understand why they behave the way they do and empathize with them, and find better ways to work with them.

Nursing professor Cynthia Butcher went to London for a week in May with Dr. Louise Selanders, a noted Nightingale scholar, to learn more about Florence Nightingale. They visited the Nightingale country estate, St. Thomas' Hospital, the gravesite for Florence and her family, and the Florence Nightingale Museum, as well as other London sites.

The Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission (ETAC) of ABET has accredited the BS **Electrical Engineering Technology**, and the BS **Manufacturing Engineering Technology** programs through September 30th of 2023. This was the initial accreditation for the BS Electrical Engineering Technology program. The Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of ABET will conduct a site visit for the BS Computer Engineering, the BS Electrical Engineering, and the BS Mechanical Engineering programs in Fall 2018.

Mechanical Engineering Prof. Jim Devaprasad was voted to serve another three-year term in Sault Ste. Marie's Economic Development Corporation, and he continues to serve in the Membership Board of the Robotics Industries Association (RIA), with a membership of over 450 organizations.

Computer Engineering professor Dr. Paul Weber presented "Gamification of Engineering Courses" at the 2017 ASEE Annual Conference & Exposition in Columbus, OH, June 25 - 28, 2017. The work was funded by an LSSU Funding Innovations in Teaching (FIT) grant and was completed by Zakaria Mahmud, Paul Weber, and Joseph P. Moening, with support from LSSU students Isaiah Murray and Aly Hamner.

Mechanical Engineering professor Dr. Masoud Zarepoor published "Constrained-Energy Dynamic Cross-Well Motion of Bistable Structures Subjected to Noise Disturbance" with co-author Onur Bilgen of Rutgers University in the International Journal of Structural Stability and Dynamics in August.

The School of **Physical Sciences** hosted a solar eclipse community viewing event on campus on Aug. 21, 2017 with 400-500 individuals in attendance. The eclipse was viewed with the aid of the 4 telescopes and solar viewing glasses. This event was made possible by Dr. Matthew Spencer, Dr. Paul Kelso, Ben Southwell, students and staff in the School of Physical Sciences, and of course the proper alignment of the earth the moon and the sun!

Accounting professor Mindy McCreedy and Dr. David Finley recently traveled to the 2017 ACBSP Annual Conf. and presented a poster entitled: Lukenda School of Business' Annual Occupational Education Day.

The LSSU **Accounting Club** held their bi-annual Superior Accounting Conference on May 5, 2017 in Considine Hall. Accountants from the EUP, Northern Ontario, and Tip of the MItt were in attendance.

A new **Marketing** Club has been established in the Lukenda School of Business.

Management professor Marta Diaz completed her third masters degree this summer. The degree completed was a Master of Science in Finance from the University of Michigan.

An NAACLS accreditation visit is scheduled for October to review the **Medical Laboratory Science** program. There is a nearly a 30% growth potential in that field for graduates.

Biology professor Dr. Barbara Evans secured a USDA-NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE (NIFA) project through NCRAC entitled "Educating a Workforce for the Aquaculture Industry: Matching Skill Needs of the Aquaculture Industry with US Career and Technical Education (CTE)" Total Funding for the grant is: \$188,036. The grant extends the Youth Education in Aquaculture project with \$78,596 dedicated to LSSU activities; \$45,440 to Iowa State, and \$64,000 to UW Steven's Point.

Dr. Barbara Evans spent two months this summer teaching BIOL104: Survey of General Biology: Aquaponics and NSCI103: Environmental Science as part of the Wisconsin in Scotland program.

Dr. Evans coordinated the second "Careers in Natural Resources" summer camp at Hunt Creek. This Superior Edventures camp has resulted in at least one new admit at LSSU this fall.

Dr. Evans and students continue to collaborate with Dr. Arango at War Memorial Hospital to provide genetic testing/screening for hereditary hemochromatosis.